

SHERIFF CORONER-MARSHAL



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EDWARD N. BONNER SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL STEPHEN L. D'ARCY

PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release:

Friday, May 11, 2007

Date/Time of Occurrence:

Tuesday, May 15, 2007

Nature of Event:

Flags Fly At Half-staff for Peace Officers' Memorial Day

Location of Call:

Placer County

Released by:

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SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:

On Tuesday, May 15, Peace Officers' Memorial Day, the Placer County Sheriff's Department will remember the nearly 18,000 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty in this nation's history by lowering its flags.

This tribute to American law enforcement is part of the historic crime bill signed into law in 1994. At the request of the National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial Fund, the law designates Peace Officers' Memorial Day as one of only two days during which all residents, businesses and government agencies are required to lower their U.S. flags. The other day with this honor is Memorial Day, which commemorates those who died in military service to the country.

The Placer County Sheriff's Department believes that lowering flags on Peace Officers' Memorial Day is an appropriate way to show respect for the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice and to remember the family, friends and colleagues they left behind. It also is an important reminder of the continued service and sacrifice of the 800,000 law enforcement officers who protect our communities and safeguard our democracy day in and day out.

In 1962, President John Kennedy designated May 15 as Peace Officers' Memorial Day. The calendar week in which May 15 falls is National Police Week, with this year's commemoration on May 13-19.

As part of National Police Week, the names of 145 law enforcement officers killed in 2006, as well as 237 others who died in prior years, will be formally dedicated on the National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial in Washington, D.C., during the 19th annual candlelight vigil on the evening of May 13.